रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) और (ख) जी हां रेल किराया एवं माल भाड़ा समिति (1993) ने इस पहलू की जांच की है रोडवेज को तरजीह देने के मुख्य कारण हैं:—

1. अधिक बारम्बारता के कारण सड़क परिवहन कम दूरी के यात्रियों के लिए, अधिक उपयुक्त है।

2. रोडवेज कुल मिलाकर यात्रा स्थल तक लम्बी दूरी में यात्री द्वारा यात्रा किए बिना स्थल दर स्थल सेवा प्रदान करती है। बहरहाल लंबी दूरी की यात्रा के लिए रेल परिवहन वरीयता वाला साधन है।

Laying of additional track between Mumbai CST and Thane

2006. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question No. 800 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th November, 1996 and state;

(a) whether Government have received the Engineering feasibility study report in respect of laying additional track between Mumbai-CST and Thane from M/s RITES;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be undertaken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Inclusion of the project in the Railway Plan depends on outcome of study report, availability of funds and clearance by the Government.

Appointment of Bishop as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board

2007. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bishop of the Evangelical Church of Tamil Nadu has been apointed as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board;

(b) whether Government have plans to appoint Purohits and Maulvis to similar posts;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Shri Manuel Ezra Sargunam whose bio data shows him to be the President of Evangelical Church of India has been appointed as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board, Madras, on adhoc basis. There is no proposal under consideration for appointment of any person as Chairman of any Railway Recruitment Boards on the basis of being a Purohit or a Maulvi, as only the persons fulfilling the eligibility criteria, viz. being serving/ retired officials of the Central (including Railways)/State Governments, ex-MPs and men of repute, e.g. educationists, lawyers, etc. within the age group of 45 to 62 years are considered for such appointments on regular basis by selection through UPSC or keeping the exigencies of service in view, on adhoc basis.

Abstention from work by South Central Railway employees

2008. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report in the "Deccan Chronicle" (Hyderabad - Late City edition), dated the 26th June, 1997 entitled "Wilful abstentions derail South Central Railway", highlighting that a large number of employees of the South Central Railway abstain from work but yet manage to be technically present in the official register and collect their salaries; and

(b) if so, the details of the modus operandi adopted by the employees and the action taken/proposed to be taken on the enquiry conducted, if any?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the news report in the "Deccan Chronicle" dated 26th June 1997. However, the report as such is highly exaggerated and is not based on fectual position. Intensive senior level Special checks were made immediately after publication of the report. These were in addition to the regular checks being conducted to prevent such absenteeism. Action has been taken against those employees who were found absent during these checks.

Use of Wooden Sleepers

2009. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to change the Railways' policy of using wooden sleepers for meeting only ten percent of its needs and also the system of buying timber solely from the public sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

World Bank assistance for Mumbai Urban Transport Project

2010. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the proposal to finance to second Phase of Mumbai Urban Transport Project was submitted to the World Bank by the Railway Ministry;

(b) the details about the financial assistance sought from World Bank and time-schedule of the project;

(c) whether the World Bank agreed to finance the project; and

(d) if so, what is the present status; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No such proposal has been sent to the World Bank so far.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

हिसार और चंडीगढ़ के बीच रेल लाइन

2011. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले बजट सत्र के समय सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात लाई गई थी कि हिसार (हरियाणा) में चंडीगढ़ के लिए सीधी रेल लाइन नहीं है जिसके कारण वहां के लोगों को भारी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने उक्त व्यवस्था होने तक एकता एक्सप्रेस (कालका-भिवानी) को हिसार तक बढ़ाकर और उसके समय में मामूली फेरबदल करके लोकोपयोगी बनाने का प्रयास किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) जी हां;

(ख) जाखल/नरवाना से पटियाला तक नई लाईन के लिए सर्वेक्षण शुरू कर दिया गया है। सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट प्राप्त हो जाने पर इस परियोजना पर आगे विचार करना संभव होगा।

(ग) से (ङ) एकता एक्सप्रेस को हिसार तक बढ़ानें और समय में परिवर्तन करने की व्यवहार्यता की जांच की गई थी लेकिन अनुरक्षण तंगियों सहित परिचालनिक कठिनाइयों के कारण इसे व्यवहारिक नहीं पाया गया।

उत्तर प्रदेश में नये रेलमार्ग बनाने के लिए कार्य-योजना

2012. **श्री राजनाथ सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: